by Government were all enough only for the salaries of the officers and the servants of the municipality and for some slight expenditure on account of lighting. There was absolutely no money left for meeting the real needs of the people. This fact by itself spoke volumes on the efficiency of the municipality. The total length of roads available for traffic in the municipality was but 3 miles. Till recently the council was filling its coffers by the iniquitous exaction of tolls from a small evening market which they treated as a public market. The surplus available with the council according to the last audit report of the Account Officer was only Re. 1-chs. 10-0. Now that the tolls from the market had been stopped by Government, the income of the municipality would go down still further. The local people were so much oppressed by the municipality that several memorials had been submitted by them to Government for its abolition. The Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, had also recommended the same step. When this recommendation was referred to the municipal council, the members present, with the exception of the President, had unanimously supported it. Government should give effect to their resolution and order the abolition of the municipality.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Govinda Pillai, I hope to come and stay at Kartikapalli for a few days before very long and then I shall make enquiries if possible with the Chief Engineer, into several of these matters that you have represented—most of which are matters of roads and canals, the construction of the hospital buildings on the site acquired for the purpose, etc.

About the municipality, I was greatly interested in all that you stated about the abolition of the municipality. I have also received a resolution about the abolition of the Municipal Council of whom no less than 11 out of 12 members were present at the meeting as you told me. I have also had placed before me the request of the municipality that it should be forthwith abolished *in toto*. Unfortunately, rules and regulations preclude the municipality from thus committing suicide. It is contrary to the rulings of Government that a municipal council should discuss the question of its abolition.

Therefore the Government were constrained to rescind this resolution of self-immolation. The matter is being considered and everything that will help Government to ascertain the views of the people, such as you presented so clearly from your point of view today, will be done.

86. Needs of the Pattanamtitta taluk.

MR. P. S. KESAVA PILLAI (*Member, Pattanamtitta taluk*) said that Pattanamtitta, though one of the most important taluks in the State, was grievously wanting in means of communication. It was in the first place, a hilly tract and secondly, there were the Pampa and Achankoil rivers flowing through the taluk which made communication extremely difficult particularly in the rainy season. The following roads, bridges *etc.*, should therefore be taken up at once:

The village road from Omallur to Kulanada which the ryots had opened at their own cost should be taken over by Government and the

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works in connection with it completed. If this was done, the big bridge which Government proposed to build at the Kaipatturkadavu would become unnecessary.

The Kumpazha—Konni village road which the ryots had opened at their own cost should be made a cart road and a bridge should be built across the Achankovil river near the Division Forest Office, Konni. The road and the bridge were sure to be of great use to the Sirkar pepper farm at Konni, the teak farm at Naduvathumuzhi, and several private estates.

The following ryots' roads should also be taken over by Government and made fit for traffic:

(*a*) the road from Pattanamtitta to Thazhookadavu (2½ miles);

(*b*) the road from Pattanamtitta to the Mannarakulanji—Kozhancheri road (2½ miles);

(*c*) the road from Pattanamtitta to Valanchuzhikadavu (½ mile);

(*d*) the road from the Kaipatturkadavu to the Konni—Pattanapuram road (7 miles).

With a view to the development of agriculture in the taluk the extensive grass lands (covered with ൭൦൦) lying inside the forest reserves should be thrown open for cultivation, as also the forest reserves which were situated in the middle of inhabited areas. The Koduman reserve was, for example, an isolated forest area surrounded on all sides by human habitations. It could with advantage be disafforested.

An English High School should be established in the taluk. There were five English Middle Schools there, four under private management and one departmental; but not a single High School. So far as vernacular schools were concerned, there were seven Malayalam Middle Schools. The nearest Malayalam High Schools were at Tiruvalla and Quilon. As regards female education, the standard of the vernacular primary school for girls should be raised to the Middle School grade.

The dispensary at Pattanamthitta should be shifted from its present site near the market and it should be converted into a hospital.

A midwife should be appointed in the Konni dispensary.

The Ayurveda Vaidyasala at Omallur should be shifted from there and re-established at Pattanamtitta. A new Vaidyasala should be established at Konni.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kesava Pillai, in regard to the completion and maintenance of the roads mentioned by you, I would ask you to meet the Chief Engineer and speak to him on the matter. The other items of public works will be considered and disposed of by the Roads Board which will soon be constituted. The Inspecting Medical officer will send a midwife as soon as practicable to the dispensary. The transfer of the dispensary proposed will be considered, but I am afraid the Inspecting Medical officer will not agree to your proposal. An estimate for a new dispensary will be called for.

The Assembly adjourned at 4-30 P. M.

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